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MR. ROBINS' REASONS

Raymond Robins was a Democrat before he became a member of the Progressive party; one of the considerable number of Democrats who came to the party, despite conviction that it was not constructively capable, but who were willing to work with any organization that represented persistent opposition to the old standard Republicanism of a decade ago.

Breaking away from the Democrats, he naturally went over to the Progressive party. Now he declares for the Republican party and for Hughes, and the reason is that he considers the Republican party has been reorganized into the most progressive and the most efficient political organization that the country possesses.

According to the great mass of independently disposed voters stand on this question, the country will align itself with Republicans or Democrats this autumn. Mr. Robins' declaration is especially significant because he is one of the most widely known intellectual Progressives, and one of the most independent. He has a great following in Illinois, as he proved when he ran for Senator there. He is a leader of the labor masses, especially the most intelligent elements of organized labor. His declaration for Hughes is therefore much more than one man's pronouncement; it is indication of a large and highly important drift of thought and of votes.

NEW YORK CAR STRIKE

Seven thousand carmen on the trolley lines of New York city have walked out. It means congestion of the most serious kind on the elevated and subway lines of the city; and suspension of intramural transit, or even serious interference with it, is one of the most grave difficulties that a great city can face.

Yet New York will live through it, and probably will have better service as a result, more or less direct. It appears, as folk at the metropolis study their situation, that street car employees there are paid less than almost anywhere else. The reason is not made very obvious. We are assured that men in the same classification as to experience and length of service, earn 40 cents more in Detroit than they do in New York. Detroit is quite a town at producing rapid transit facilities; maybe they are compelled to pay the motormen high wages to keep 'em from insisting on riding in Fords.

But there are other cases more difficult of explanation. In Cleveland and Chicago, where approximation to municipal ownership and real municipal control have been established, the carmen get better wages than in New York.

One thing is to be observed pretty widely. The towns where they have found means to squeeze the water out of capital, pay the best wages. New York still has its water in the capital, and wages seem to be decidedly low.

Washington has ample water in the capital of its street railways; and it has been proposed that the water be squeezed out, through application of public ownership. Why not?

A LESSON FROM CANADA

Citizens who are able to do so but who have hesitated about subscribing to the fund for the care of dependent families of militiamen in the field, might profit by a study of what the people of Canada have done in this respect.

The usual comment when such advice is given to a private citizen is that Canada is at war, and this country is not. But conditions with regard to the militia are exactly what conditions in war time would be. Considering the travail through which Canada passed in getting her resources flowing in the proper direction for efficient help in the war, it would seem that the very fact that this country is not at war would argue for organization of those forces that would be called upon in case of war.

There is such a thing as preparedness for the responsibilities of the stay-at-homes as well as for the responsibilities of the men at the front. One responsibility of the stay-at-homes will be caring for the dependents of those who go. At the present time there are approximately 100,000 militiamen in active service. In time of war there would be one or two million.

The relief work of Canada, in addition to the separation allowance of \$20 for every wife or mother from the central government, and the compulsory allotment of one-half of his pay from every officer and enlisted man, includes the patriotic fund. It

is this that the private citizen of this country could study.

The fund is made up entirely of voluntary contributions in amounts of from 10 cents to \$1,000 each month by citizens. The men and women who make these contributions do regard it as a real privilege to help the empire. The women are satisfied to wear last year's clothes, the men cut out their luxuries.

The fund is administered by volunteer officers. Each town has its fund. The chief banker is the treasurer and makes the disbursements. A central body oversees the disbursements. An allotment of \$5 is made to every dependent wife and mother, and \$5 for every dependent child, providing that no allotment for any one family amounts to more than \$50 per month.

The fund needed in the District of Columbia today for this same purpose is not more than \$5,000 per month. There are more than 300,000 people living in the District. Ten cents each from 300,000 people would amount to six times more than is needed.

THIS WAR OF THE MACHINE SHOPS

A London letter says that in the next six months the munitions factories of the United Kingdom will double the capacity at which they can now turn out guns. It is hard to realize just what this will mean, in shaping the course of the war. Let it be remembered that at the outset Germany overmatched her enemies, to an extent that was positively preposterous, in artillery and in capacity to make it; in ammunition for it and in capacity to make that ammunition. It seemed like a lead that could never be overcome. Germany did not believe it could be.

What the entente powers have done is this:

They have built plants and in them have constructed artillery, that today in weight and numbers gives them an actual superiority over their enemies, on both eastern and western fronts. They have provided ammunition for it with such generosity that there is no longer doubt of the allies' ability to use shells of all kinds more freely than the Teutons dare employ them.

Thus they have overcome the enemy's lead, and passed him. Now add to this the assurance that in the next half-year they will double a pace that has been rapid enough to enable them, in the last two years, to overhaul an enemy that seemed to have an advantage quite beyond possibility of reduction.

It is not hard to see what this must mean. The allies will be increasing their production of the engines of war, at a time when the central powers must long since have reached their maximum; a maximum that even now leaves them in second place in producing capacity.

If this performance could be stated in figures, it would be more impressive; but neither side, for obvious reasons, would permit the figures to be made public.

The war becomes every day more and more a contest between the machine-shop capacities of the opposing sides. There is no longer doubt on which side that advantage lies. The plan of campaign of the allies, in the west especially, is plainly being developed with regard to this immense advantage.

They intend to bring up more and more of their artillery and the ammunition that makes it useful; an ever-increasing stream of engines of destruction, and pound the Germans out of trenches as they have been doing in recent weeks. Always artillery advantage will be employed to accomplish this; and when once the Germans are driven out, they must assume the counter offensive, and make desperate efforts to retake positions. This means that, while the allies hope to make their advances through the employment of a minimum of man power and a maximum of machine power, they will compel the enemy to counter-attack with a maximum of man power and a minimum of machine power.

The effect of this, clearly, will be to compel the Germans to exhaust their reserves of men, already depleted and ultimately incapable of standing any such drafts as the larger number of the allies can meet. Wave after wave of Teuton soldiery must dash against positions that the allies will have taken; men will be used on one side, to meet steel and smokeless powder primarily employed by the other.

That is the campaign plan. It has had some demonstration already; it will have more in the near future. The war is entering into this phase of industrial competition, for that is what it really means. The side with the heaviest battalions becomes also the side with the greatest mobilization of machine shops; and the machine shops will determine results in the kind of warfare that is now being conducted.

ALEXANDRIA REGATTA PLANS TAKE SHAPE

Delay in Publishing Program Due to Doubt of Potomac Club's Participation.

ALEXANDRIA, Aug. 6.—Through its officers and the regatta committee, the Old Dominion Boat Club is shaping the program for its regatta-reception to be given next Saturday on the river front, and which, it is expected, will attract two hundred and fifty invited guests will attend.

It is not certain that the Potomac Boat Club of Washington, which has been invited to take part in the regatta, but it is expected that a definite answer will be received from the Washington canoeists early this week. Indications point to the gayest affair of its kind that has been given in several years in this city. A number of funny stunts, besides the regular races and aquatic contests and exhibitions, and in the evening after refreshments are served, a large dance will be given in the club house.

At a number of the local churches today visiting ministers are filling pulpits in the absence of regular pastors on vacation. The Rev. Robert U. Brooking is conducting services at St. Paul's E. Church during August, there being no Sunday evening services, and the Rev. J. M. Moursie held services at the Episcopal Church, and the Rev. J. C. McFadden held services at the Second Presbyterian Church, here also there being no evening service during August. J. C. McFadden held services this morning at the First Baptist Church, and the Rev. G. L. Allen filled the pulpit this evening. Ensign Coleman, of the local branch of the Salvation Army, preached at the Episcopal Church, and the Rev. J. C. McFadden held services at the Second Baptist Church today.

D. R. Stansbury, of this city, is a member of the committees of arrangements for the annual reunion of the Odd Fellows of Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, and Maryland, to be held Thursday at Pan Mar, Pa., and which will be attended by a large delegation of Odd Fellows from this city. Plans are being made by the Alexandria to leave here Thursday morning.

A deed has been recorded in the office of the clerk of the corporation court transferring a house and lot at Alfred and Wilkes streets to Mrs. Evelyn S. Brawner and husband to William W. Turner.

Arrangements are being made by a number of local Baptists to attend the annual session of the Potomac Baptist Association, which will meet for three days, beginning August 16, at Warrenton, Va. Alexandria has a large representation in the membership of that organization and two officers of the association are Alexandrians, the Rev. Eugene B. Jackson, pastor of the First Baptist Church, and the historian, and James R. Mansfield, clerk.

Southern railway, at an early date, will begin the erection of a large roundhouse and coal station in the southwestern section of this city, plans and specifications now being prepared, according to report. It is expected that the new roundhouse will have thirty-two stalls for the storage of locomotives, although the new building will not entirely supplant the present roundhouse, at Maryland and First streets. The completion of the roundhouse will necessitate a large increase in the local working force.

WHAT'S ON PROGRAM HERE DURING WEEK

Many Interesting Events of Importance Are Scheduled For Capital.

Today. Family picnic, Bowie association, home of Mr. Florio, 1518 Highlands, all day. Excursion, Business High School Alumni Association, down river on St. Johns. Life-saving contest off Potomac Boat Club, 2:30 p. m.

Tomorrow. Concert, Soldiers Home Band, Soldiers Home bandstand, 4:30 p. m. Excursion, Engineers' Band, Judiciary Park, 7:30 p. m. Masonic-Potomac, No. 5; Benjamin R. French, No. 15; and Anacostia, No. 21, called off; Pentapolis, No. 23; Mount Pleasant, No. 24, called off. Odd Fellows-Union, No. 11; Beacon, No. 15; Langdon, No. 28; Rebekah Lodge-Naomi, No. 1; and Union, No. 10, called off. Knights of Pythias-Amaranth, No. 23; Century, No. 20. Maccabees-National Tent, Anacostia Tent.

Tuesday. Masonic-Federal, No. 1, called off; Aecia, No. 13; Falcon, No. 28, called off; Evangelist Church, Knights Rose Cross, Scottish Rite, called off. Odd Fellows-Union, No. 27; Stuart Encampment, No. 7. Knights of Pythias-Webster, No. 7; Excelsior, No. 14; Capital, No. 24; Myrtle, No. 25; Maccabees-Mount Vernon Tent, Brightwood Tent.

Wednesday. Masonic-Harmony, No. 17, called off; St. George, No. 18; Union, No. 10, called off. Odd Fellows-Eastern, No. 7; Federal City, No. 21; Harmony, No. 9; Columbian Encampment, No. 1; Mount Pleasant, No. 9 of the Rebekahs. Knights of Pythias-Mount Vernon, No. 5; and Union, No. 10, called off. Odd Fellows-Union, No. 27; Stuart Encampment, No. 7. Knights of Pythias-Webster, No. 7; Excelsior, No. 14; Capital, No. 24; Myrtle, No. 25; Maccabees-Mount Vernon Tent, Brightwood Tent.

Thursday. Masonic-The New Jerusalem, No. 9, and George C. Whitting, No. 22, called off. Naval. Odd Fellows-Salem, No. 22; Excelsior, No. 11; Columbia, No. 18; Covenant, No. 13. Knights of Pythias-Harmony, No. 21. Maccabees-District Tent.

Friday. Masonic-Hope, No. 20. Odd Fellows-Central, No. 1; Phoenix, No. 28; Rebekahs-Dorcas, No. 4; Martha Washington, No. 10. Knights of Pythias-Syracusan, No. 10; Rathbone Superior, No. 29, called off; Rathbone Temple, No. 4, of the Pythians Tent.

Saturday. Odd Fellows-Canton Washington, No. 1. Patriarchs Militant.

Induced Girl of 18 to Steal for Her, Charged

CHICAGO, Aug. 6.—Mrs. Florence Duffy was brought back from North Chicago today, charged with larceny on complaint of the parents of Marine Marino, eighteen years old. Mrs. Duffy has a long record of crime, and is charged with the larceny of a diamond ring and a watch from her parents' home, valued at \$500 and to give the money to her daughter.

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PRICE OF WALES IS POPULAR WITH ARMY

Has Won Way to Hearts of Troops by Unaffected Likeableness.

LONDON, Aug. 6.—If the Kingship of England were vacant and elective there is little doubt that the Prince of Wales would receive the unanimous vote of the soldiers at the front.

He has won his way into the hearts of not only his fellow-officers but of the ordinary soldiers by his democracy, his unassuming, and his unaffected likeableness. It has been a constant worry on the part of his fellow-officers to keep him reasonably out of danger, and the persistence with which the "Little Prince," as he is affectionately called, would try to get into the front line trenches caused no small amount of anxiety to the headquarters staff.

His own feelings in this respect were expressed in a letter he sent to a chum of his in England when he was in Flanders.

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"It is damned rotten being a prince," he wrote, and then pathetically added: "Every day I try to go to the trenches, but they send me back."

A fellow-officer of the Grenadier Guards, the regiment to which the prince is attached, said: "The prince is a corker. He showed up to me one afternoon and burst out: 'I've come for tea and I hope it's not too late for a Mississippian.'"

His language is by no means royal and he can and does express himself with a force and picturesqueness that would do no injustice to a Mississippi pilot.

When he makes a mistake or an oversight he is quick to acknowledge and rectify it. A story illustrating this is told of his recent visit to Egypt.

Accompanied by an officer, his royal highness entered a group of houses and failed to notice or acknowledge their salute.

His line there ran the signal: "One, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight, nine, out."

The prince turned to the officer in attendance and asked what it meant.

When the reason was explained he rode back to the overseas men, pulled up before them, and with a genial smile and all the grace he could command, returned the salute.

In a flash the Australian commander counted him "in" again. "Nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one, in," ran through their ranks, and the prince cantered off to the accompaniment of a lusty cheer.

He is extremely observant, as one inspector at Scotland Yard can testify. Whenever the prince crosses or re-crosses a frontier he is always accompanied by a man from the special branch of Scotland Yard.

On one of these trips during the height of German submarine activity, the inspector afterward frankly confessed he didn't like the thought of being torpedoed, so he took his stand by a life buoy attached to the rail, opened his knife and held it in his pocket ready for eventualities.

The prince came along, noticed the situation and smilingly said: "Hello, chief, I see you have picked out your life buoy."

The inspector, with a feline air of surprise, said: "Why, I never noticed it."

"Like hell you didn't!" pleasantly retorted the prince.

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HOBOKEN'S SECRET

STILL ALL HER OWN

Reporter Sent to Look Into Marriage Runners Looks Into Cafe Instead.

NEW YORK, Aug. 6.—One reason that next to nothing will be said here about the abolishment of marriage runners in Hoboken is that Old Judge McCormick, who is the managing editor and everything of the Hudson (county) Observer, asked a reporter particularly to make next to nothing of Hoboken's scandal.

Still another reason why the facts about the abolishment of marriage runners will be next door to obliterated herein is that the reporter who was sent over the Hoboken look almost no interest in the assignment, largely because he starts out today for the Maine woods on his vacation.

This item of news may be of little interest to the more or less gentle reader, but choice of two sources of nourishment to what the Hudson Observer and Old Judge McCormick calls a scribble.

But to come back to the Hudson Observer's crusade against marriage runners: "Following the disclosure during the past week," said the Observer on its front page, "the Hudson Observer, Director of Public Safety McCreary, stated this morning that it is his intention to put a stop to the marriage business in Hoboken."

As things are at present Hoboken is earning for itself an unsavory reputation that is not to the credit of the city. We are not going to allow any more of this to besmirch the name and fame of the city and carry on a business that is a disgrace to the city. We will have these men barred from the City Hall, and if they attempt to enter the hall or go in the office of the Mayor, we will have them arrested as disorderly persons."

Nourishment Handy. "This thing should be looked into," said a boss with knitted brows along Park row. "Go over to Hoboken and look into it. It's very important."

"Yes, it is. On your way." "But it doesn't appeal to me, boss." "No."

"Absolutely no. However, if you insist—"

The Hoboken City Hall is a chocolate and vanilla colored building. The bricks are vanilla colored, but the stone columns and other trimmings are chocolate. Directly across the street one can see the Hudson Observer building. The entrance one may enter the City Hall cafe or Borden's dairy.

But before entering the City Hall cafe a brief visit was made by the visitor to the police station on the Newark street side of the City Hall. Was it true that Chief of Police Pat. Hayes had decided to run in